

Message Text

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22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-11 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

PA-01 PRS-01 /047 W

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R 101040Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 968

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RANGOON 0458

BANGKOK FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, BM

SUBJECT: POPPY PLANT DESTRUCTION PROGRAM

1. GUB POPPY PLANTATION DESTRUCTION PROGRAM CONTINUES IN FULL SWING. LOCAL PAPERS PAST FEW DAYS HAVE GIVEN FRONT PAGE COVERAGE WITH PHOTOS OF MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS, U KO KO, AND PARTY, WHICH INCLUDED DIRECTOR-GENERAL, NATIONAL POLICE AND CHIEF, MIS, ALL OF WHOM ARE TRAVELLING IN SHAN STATE SPEAKING WITH FARMERS, CONDUCTING DESTRUCTION OPERATIONS, AND ENCOURAGING CROP SUBSTITUTION. PHOTOS APPEARING IN PAPERS HAVE U KO KO, WHO NOW ALSO HOLDS TITLE OF CHAIRMAN OF CENTRAL NARCOTIC DRUGS CONTROL BOARD, LECTURING FARMERS WITH U.S.-PROVIDED HELICOPTER IN BACKGROUND. SECOND PHOTO HAS VILLAGERS AND SOLDIERS DESTROYING POPPY FIELDS AGAIN WITH TWO HELICOPTERS IN BACKGROUND.

2. ARTICLES DEMONSTRATE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH GUB IS APPROACHING DESTRUCTION PROGRAM, WHICH NOW EXCEEDS 2,000 ACRES OF POPPY, BUT HELICOPTER-LADEN PHOTOS' INTENTION AND FREQUENT MENTION OF HELICOPTERS IN ARTICLES IS NOT LOST ON MISSION. WE AWARE OF POINT BEING MADE AND DULY NOTE IT HERE.

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OSBORN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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